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Reply to Office Action of: 01/04/2007
Attorney Docket No.: 157972-0011**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 23, line 1, with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 5A shows in isolation and with tilt removed either of the snap ring cross sections that are shown with tilt and in the context of adjacent parts during installation in FIG. 5. In the embodiment of FIG. 5 and FIG. 5A, the edge lacking die roll (i.e. top edge 86 of the snap ring) is deliberately beveled (e.g. by a separate coining step) in at least a region of contact to provide a flattened edge profile that can be approximately characterized by bevel angle 87 and bevel depth 90. It is clear from Fig. 5A that a relatively-reduced local thickness exists at the location of the bevel. In a preferred embodiment, the cross-sectional profile in a region of contact is adequately and practically blunted if the bevel angle 87 is chosen to be in the design range of 10° to 40° and the bevel depth 90 is chosen to produce a local thickness in the design range of 60% to 85% of the thickness of the snap ring. The bevel angle and depth can be deliberately formed (e.g. by a separate coining step) within these design ranges during manufacture, after the stamping step that creates the interior radius of the snap ring.